

MINUTES

MONTANA SENATE 61st LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION

COMMITTEE ON FINANCE AND CLAIMS

Call to Order: Chairman Keith Bales, on March 27, 2009 at 9:00
A.M., in Room 317 Capitol

ROLL CALL

Members Present:

Sen. Keith Bales, Chairman (R)
Sen. Dave Lewis, Vice Chairman (R)
Sen. Debby Barrett (R)
Sen. John Brenden (R)
Sen. Mike Cooney (D)
Sen. John Esp (R)
Sen. Ken (Kim) Hansen (D)
Sen. Bob Hawks (D)
Sen. Trudi Schmidt (D)
Sen. David E. Wanzenried (D)
Sen. Ryan Zinke (R)

Members Excused:

Sen. Gregory D. Barkus (R)
Sen. John Brueggeman (R)
Sen. Steven Gallus (D)
Sen. Rick Laible (R)
Sen. Jim Peterson (R)
Sen. Rick Ripley (R)
Sen. Mitch Tropila (D)
Sen. Carol Williams (D)

Members Absent: None

Staff Present: Prudence Gildroy, Committee Secretary
Taryn Purdy, Legislative Branch

Audio Committees: These minutes are in outline form only. They provide a list of participants and a record of official action taken by the committee. The link to the audio recording of the meeting is available on the Legislative Branch website.

Committee Business Summary:

Hearing & Date Posted: HB 2, 3/19/2009

Executive Action: None

00:00:01 Reconvene
00:01:03 Chairman Bales
00:04:32 Sen. Hawks
00:04:37 Chairman Bales

HEARING ON HB 2 (CONTINUED)

Section D - Judicial Branch, Law Enforcement and Justice:

00:05:09 Rep. Hawk opened on Section D of HB 2.
00:09:25 Chairman Bales

Judicial Branch

Informational Testimony:

00:10:11 Lois Menzies, Court Administrator, Supreme Court

Questions from the Committee and Responses:

00:11:22 Sen. Hawks
00:11:39 Rep. Hawk
00:12:05 Sen. Hawks
00:12:21 Rep. Hawk
00:12:44 Ms. Menzies
00:13:32 Sen. Hawks
00:13:34 Chairman Bales

Montana Board of Crime Control

00:13:44 Rep. Hawk

Informational Testimony:

00:14:04 Roland Mena, Executive Director, Crime Control Division

Department of Justice

00:14:53 Rep. Hawk

Informational Testimony

00:17:29 Steve Bullock, Attorney General

[EXHIBIT\(fcs68a01\)](#)

Questions from the Committee and Responses:

00:22:21 Sen. Ripley
 00:22:58 Attorney General Bullock
 00:23:48 Chairman Bales
 00:23:50 Sen. Gallus
 00:24:08 Attorney General Bullock
 00:24:39 Sen. Laible
 00:25:10 Pat Gervais, Legislative Fiscal Division (LFD)
 00:25:27 Sen. Laible
 00:25:48 Ms. Gervais, LFD
 00:26:04 Sen. Laible
 00:26:45 Attorney General Bullock
 00:27:32 Sen. Laible
 00:27:51 Chairman Bales
 00:28:09 Sen. Gallus
 00:28:46 Attorney General Bullock
 00:29:45 Chairman Bales
 00:29:58 Sen. Schmidt
 00:30:16 Attorney General Bullock
 00:30:29 Chairman Bales
 00:30:36 Sen. Wanzenried
 00:30:45 Chairman Bales
 00:31:19 Sen. Laible
 00:31:36 Sen. Peterson
 00:31:52 Attorney General Bullock
 00:32:27 Sen. Peterson
 00:32:44 Chairman Bales
 00:32:46 Larry Fasbender, Deputy Director, Department of Justice (DOJ)
 00:33:41 Sen. Schmidt
 00:33:55 Mr. Fasbender, DOJ
 00:36:00 Sen. Tropila
 00:36:40 Mr. Fasbender
 Sen. Williams and Sen. Barkus now present
 00:38:12 Chairman Bales
 00:38:18 Sen. Esp
 00:38:48 Attorney General Bullock
 00:39:41 Sen. Esp
 00:39:57 Attorney General Bullock
 00:40:33 Chairman Bales

Public Service Regulation

00:40:40 Rep. Hawk

Informational Testimony:

00:41:22 Wayne Budt, Administrator, Centralized Services, Public
Service Commission

Public Defender

00:41:52 Rep. Hawk

Informational Testimony:

00:42:44 Randi Hood, Chief Public Defender

Questions from the Committee and Responses:

00:44:24 Sen. Zinke

00:44:55 Ms. Hood

Department of Corrections

00:45:48 Rep. Hawk

Informational Testimony:

00:47:26 Director Mike Ferriter, Department of Corrections (COR)

Questions from the Committee and Responses:

00:52:51 Sen. Lewis

00:53:48 Director Ferriter, COR

00:55:19 Sen. Barrett

00:55:45 Director Ferriter

00:56:28 Sen. Barrett

00:56:34 Director Ferriter

00:56:42 Sen. Barrett

00:56:49 Director Ferriter

00:57:04 Ms. Gervais, LFD

00:57:29 Sen. Gallus

00:57:52 Ms. Gervais

00:58:09 Sen. Schmidt

00:58:38 Gary Himmel, COR

00:59:40 Sen. Schmidt

00:59:06 Mr. Himmel

01:01:05 Chairman Bales

01:01:13 Rep. Hawk

01:02:25 Sen. Schmidt
01:02:40 Ms. Gervais
01:03:30 Sen. Lewis
01:04:01 Chairman Bales

Public Comment:

01:04:16 Beth Baker, Board of Justice Foundation
01:05:51 Mike Ruppert, CEO, Boyd Andrew Community Services
01:08:48 J. C. Weingartner, MEA-MFT
01:11:35 Scott Crichton, Director, ACLU Montana
01:17:33 Bill Slaughter, Montana Meth Project
01:21:28 Chairman Bales
01:21:37 Rep. Hawk
01:21:50 Sen. Zinke
01:22:00 Chairman Bales

01:22:04 Recess
01:42:53 Reconvene

01:43:02 Chairman Bales

Section A - General Government:

01:43:36 Rep. Bill McChesney opened on Section A of HB 2.

Legislative Branch

01:47:29 Rep. McChesney
01:49:06 Chairman Bales

Legislative Fiscal Division

Informational Testimony:

01:49:12 Clayton Schenck, Legislative Fiscal Analyst (LFA)

Legislative Audit Division

Informational Testimony:

01:55:37 Director Susan Fox, Legislative Services Division (LFD)
[EXHIBIT\(fcs68a02\)](#)

Legislative Audit Division

Informational Testimony:

01:58:44 Tori Hunthausen, Legislative Auditor

Questions from the Committee and Responses:

01:59:14 Sen. Barkus
01:59:47 Ms. Fox, LSD
02:00:10 Sen. Barkus
02:00:38 Sen. Cooney
02:00:42 Chairman Bales
02:00:53 Sen. Wanzenried
02:01:21 Ms. Fox
02:02:22 Sen. Wanzenried
02:02:53 Ms. Fox
02:04:10 Sen. Wanzenried
02:04:34 Ms. Fox
02:07:12 Sen. Wanzenried
02:07:15 Sen. Cooney
02:07:33 Sen. Barrett

Consumer Counsel

02:08:00 Rep. McChesney

Questions from the Committee and REsponses:

02:09:33 Bob Nelson, Consumer Counsel
02:09:52 Sen. Lewis
02:10:16 Mr. Nelson
02:12:54 Sen. Lewis

Governors Office

02:13:08 Rep. McChesney

Informational Testimony:

02:14:56 Bruce Nelson, Governor's Chief of Staff

Questions from the Committee and Responses:

02:15:49 Chairman Bales
02:16:22 Rep. McChesney
02:16:44 Chairman Bales
02:16:51 Sen. Barkus
02:17:02 Mr. Nelson
02:17:09 Sen. Zinke

Secretary of State

02:17:30 Rep. McChesney

Informational Testimony:

02:18:51 Linda McCullough, Secretary of State

Questions from the Committee and Responses:

None

Commissioner of Political Practices

02:19:43 Rep. McChesney

Informational Testimony:

02:22:05 Dennis Unsworth, Commissioner of Political Practices
[EXHIBIT \(fcs68a03\)](#)

Questions from the Committee and Responses:

None

State Auditors Office

02:27:25 Rep. McChesney

Informational Testimony:

02:29:28 Monica Lindeen, State Auditor

Questions from the Committee and Responses:

02:39:31 Sen. Schmidt
02:39:47 Ms. Lindeen
02:40:06 Sen. Schmidt
02:40:21 Ms. Lindeen
02:40:51 Sen. Bales
02:40:57 Ms. Lindeen
02:41:10 Sen. Hawks
02:41:32 Ms. Lindeen
02:41:49 Sen. Schmidt
02:42:11 Ms. Lindeen
02:43:26 Sen. Schmidt
02:43:39 Ms. Lindeen

Department of Revenue

02:44:06 Rep. McChesney

Informational Testimony:

02:49:53 Director Dan Bucks, Department of Revenue

Questions from the Committee and Responses:

02:58:43 Sen. Lewis

02:59:04 Director Bucks

03:01:21 Chairman Bucks

Department of Administration

03:01:30 Rep. McChesney

Informational Testimony:

03:04:21 Director Janet Kelly, Department of Administration
(DOA)

Questions from the Committee and Responses:

03:05:43 Sen. Brenden

03:06:27 Director Kelly, DOA

03:06:47 Chairman Bales

Montana Consensus Council

03:06:54 Rep. McChesney

Questions from the Committee and Responses:

03:07:32 Sen. Williams

Montana Department of Commerce

03:07:52 Rep. McChesney

Informational Testimony:

03:10:25 Director Tony Preite, Department of Commerce (COM)

Questions from the Committee and Responses:

03:21:06 Sen. Lewis

03:21:28 Director Preite

03:21:48 Andy Poole, Deputy Director, COM

03:26:50 Sen. Lewis

03:27:05 Mr. Poole

03:29:22 Sen. Lewis
03:29:39 Sen. Ripley
03:30:11 Mr. Poole

Department of Labor and Industry

03:30:41 Rep. McChesney
03:34:15 Sen. Cooney

Informational Testimony:

03:34:44 Keith Kelly, Commissioner, Department of Labor and
Industry (DLI)

Questions from the Committee and Responses:

03:37:11 Sen. Bales
03:37:15 Sen. Barkus
03:37:23 Commissioner Kelly
03:37:38 Jerry Keck, Administrator, Employment Relations
Division, DLI

EXHIBIT (fcs68a04)

03:39:12 Sen. Barkus
03:39:23 Mr. Keck, DLI
03:39:45 Sen. Barkus
03:39:46 Mr. Keck, DLI
03:40:08 Chairman Bales

Department of Military Affairs

03:40:13 Rep. McChesney

Informational Testimony:

03:43:05 Adjutant General John Walsh, Director of Military
Affairs
03:44:07 Chairman Bales

Questions from the Committee and Responses:

03:44:13 Sen. Schmidt
03:44:41 Jan Rouse, Director, Montana Youth Challenge Program
03:45:05 Ms. Rouse
03:46:49 Sen. Schmidt
03:46:59 Ms. Rouse
03:47:05 Sen. Ripley
03:47:19 Rep. McChesney
03:47:25 Sen. Cooney

03:47:36 General Walsh
03:47:57 Chairman Bales
03:48:02 Rep. McChesney
03:48:44 Sen. Laible

Public Comment:

03:49:05 Kate Cholewa, Montana Common Cause

03:50:10 Chairman Bales
03:50:30 Director David Ewer, Governors Budget Office
03:50:57 Chairman Bales
03:51:53 Sen. Hawks
03:52:34 Chairman Bales

ADJOURNMENT

Adjournment: 11:55 A.M.

Prudence Gildroy, Secretary

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Additional Documents:

EXHIBIT ([fcs68aad.pdf](#))